



DURHAM POLICE MASTER FACILITIES STUDY

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. WHY IS THE CITY DOING A STUDY OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FACILITIES?

Efficient and effective service delivery is achieved by strategic long term planning. Every organization should review their operational and philosophical approach periodically in order to take advantage of new ideas and technology and to address the ever changing conditions and problems that communities face. The Durham Police Master Facilities Study is necessary so the City may make informed decisions regarding the Police Department's future programming and space needs to ensure operational effectiveness. The Study is the first part of the planning process. The study will forecast the Durham Police Department (PD) space needs through 2030.

2. WHEN DID THIS PROJECT START?

A great deal of pre-planning work has been done in regards to Durham Police Department facilities over the last decade.

- In 2001, the City contracted with the design firms New Synergy and GSA Ltd. to conduct a departmental space needs assessment and schematic plan for its facilities. The 2001 study concluded that there was a significant space shortfall and that our facilities were starting to deteriorate.
- A building inventory conducted by Carter-Burgess Architects in 2003 also confirmed that the poor condition of the Headquarters building was becoming a significant issue.
- In 2006, the PD completed an internal Facility Report and Master Plan that detailed the deficiencies in its facilities program, and recommended a long-range plan to replace the Headquarters building and leased substations with new construction.

In January 2010 the City conducted a nationwide Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process and selected Carter Goble Associates, Inc. (CGA) to perform the Police Department's Master Facilities Study. CGA are experts in the field of public safety projects. CGA began working on this Project in July, 2010.

3. HOW MUCH WILL THIS STUDY COST?

The City Council approved \$150,000 from the Capital Improvement Program to complete the master facilities study. No additional funding has been approved at this time. Our Consultants, CGA will prepare a technical report that will include an assessment of existing facilities and space conditions, and a space needs projection through 2030 with cost estimates. The results of the study will become the facilities planning tool for the future. Future phases will become more specific as to needs and options, and the plan would continue to be refined. The project is currently only funded for an organizational study, site analysis and master facilities analysis for potential police facilities sites. Funding for design and construction has not been authorized for any future facilities at this time. The study will form the parameters for any future funding requests.

4. HOW WILL THIS MASTER FACILITIES STUDY BE USED?

The master facilities study will be the blueprint for potential future projects. Recommendations from the study will be considered as the basis for future building site selection and potential building design and construction.

5. I LIKE HAVING A SUBSTATION IN MY NEIGHBORHOOD. IS THAT GOING TO CHANGE?

All substations are being evaluated as part of the master facilities study. All possibilities are being considered in the Study in order to produce an effective Master Facilities Plan that will provide the best possible service to the community while being fiscally responsible.

6. WHAT PUBLIC SERVICES ARE CURRENTLY PROVIDED AT OUR SUBSTATIONS?

Currently, the majority of substation police services are delivered by officers in patrol cars and by investigators. Limited building and staffing capacity impacts our ability to deliver public walk-in services. Basic functional features, such as proper showers and locker rooms, sufficient interview rooms, investigative office space, storage space, and controlled access are lacking in many of our substations.

7. DOES SUBSTATION LOCATION AFFECT CRIME?

Visibility of our officers on the streets is the best deterrence of crime. Since 2006 the PD has relocated the substations in District 1, 2, and 3 (without affecting the crime rate) and also terminated leases in several small satellite offices that were deemed inefficient or operationally unnecessary. Data indicates that the crime rate is affected more by officer presence and attention, than by substation location.

8. HOW DO I STAY INFORMED ABOUT THIS PROJECT? WHO DO I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

- Information will be posted on the Police Department's website at www.durhampolice.com.
- The project is also tracked through the City's Capital Improvement Program website at <http://ww2.durhamnc.gov/cip/ProjectView.cfm?vAcctNo=322>.
- You may contact the General Services Department Project Manager Jina Propst at jina.propst@durhamnc.gov or call (919) 560-4197, extension 21284.